

May proclaimed Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month

THE COLONY, Texas — According to statistics from the Texas Department of Transportation, 455 motorcyclists were killed and 1,867 were seriously injured in motorcycle crashes in Texas in 2015. About half of fatal motorcycle crashes result from a car or truck colliding with it, often because drivers simply don't see it or misjudge how close it is and how fast it's traveling.

All told, the combination of congested roadways, distracted driving, and the difficulty of seeing motorcycles in traffic has led to far too many preventable fatalities each year.

With all those considerations in mind, the City of The Colony again proclaimed May 2016 as Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month in The Colony. Mayor Joe McCourry read the proclamation during the City Council's regular meeting on May 3.



“It is the responsibility of all who put themselves behind the wheel to become aware of motorcyclists, regarding them with the same respect as any other vehicle traveling the highways of this country,” McCourry said.

To echo the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, all motorists are reminded to safely share the road with motorcycles and to be extra alert to help keep motorcyclists safe. In turn, motorcyclists are reminded to make themselves visible to other motorists.

“Motorcyclists are roughly unprotected and much more likely to be injured or killed in a crash than other vehicle drivers,” McCourry said. He also urged “all of our community to become aware of the inherent danger involved in operating a motorcycle, and for riders and motorists alike to give each other the mutual respect they deserve.”

TxDOT recommends drivers employ the following tips for safely sharing the road with motorcycles:

- look twice for motorcycles, especially at intersections;
- use your turn signals;
- don't follow a motorcycle too closely;
- check your mirrors before changing lanes;
- always assume motorcycles are closer than they appear to be; and,
- give motorcyclists a full lane.

For more information, visit the [Texas Department of Transportation](#) website and/or the [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration](#) website.

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